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10  
11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12  
13 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,

14 *Plaintiffs,*

15 v.  
16 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY, LEE  
ZELDIN, in his official capacity as  
Administrator of the U.S.  
Environmental Protection Agency,  
and DONALD J. TRUMP, in his  
official capacity as President of the  
United States,

17  
18  
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20  
21 *Defendants.*

22 No. 4:25-cv-04966-HSG

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27  
28 **REPLY IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED  
INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS  
WESTERN STATES TRUCKING  
ASSOCIATION AND CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY AIR QUALITY  
COALITION'S MOTION TO  
INTERVENE PURUSANT TO FRCP  
RULE 24**

**Date:** October 23, 2025  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m.  
**Judge:** Hon. Haywood S. Gilliam, Jr.  
**Action Filed:** June 12, 2025

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## INTRODUCTION

Western States Trucking Association (“WSTA”) and Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition (“CIAQC”) (collectively “Movants”) have provided more than enough evidence in their Motion to Intervene to support intervening as defendants. In order to avoid millions of dollars in added capital and operational expenses, Movants seek to intervene solely to defend the legitimacy of three laws, namely, Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17, which repeal certain waivers EPA granted to California under section 209 of the Clean Air Act (“CAA”). For their part, Plaintiffs brought this case solely to attack the legitimacy of those very laws. If Plaintiffs receive the relief they request, California will be allowed to impose costly job- and company-killing regulations on Movants’ members that operate heavy-duty trucks. Plaintiffs’ counterfactual assertions that Movants seek to intervene for any purposes other than to defend the legitimacy of the three laws directly at issue in this case are plainly without merit.

Furthermore, the Motion to Intervene, supported by declarations which the Plaintiffs ignore, spells out why the Federal Defendants are not in a position to defend the Movants’ interests. Indeed, the Federal Defendants have already abandoned a key, meritorious argument that could defeat each of Plaintiffs’ claims. Specifically, in their Motion to Dismiss, the Federal Defendants utterly failed to defend EPA’s decision to treat the CAA section 209 waivers as “rules” subject to the Congressional Review Act (“CRA”). *See* Fed. Defs.’ Mot. to Dismiss, Dkt. No. 118. But in their Proposed Motion to Dismiss, Movants specifically argue that the CAA section 209 waivers are rules subject to the CRA and that *therefore* Federal Defendants acted lawfully. *See* Movants’ Proposed Mot. to Dismiss, Dkt. No. 112-4 at 17–20. If Movants are successful in making their rules argument, the complaint fails because each of Plaintiffs’ claims rely on the flawed theory that the CAA section 209 waivers are not rules. *Id.* at 19–20. Additionally, Plaintiffs do not even attempt to argue that Federal

1 Defendants, who are regulators of the Movants, have any economic interest that is  
 2 remotely comparable to those of the regulated Movants.

3 Moreover, Plaintiffs inexplicably ignore Movants' proactive acceptance of many  
 4 of the conditions Plaintiffs sought in their oppositions to other intervention motions  
 5 filed in this case. Movants adopted those conditions in their motion in order to help  
 6 minimize Plaintiffs' claimed burdens. *See Motion to Intervene Dkt No. 112 at 16–18.*  
 7 Under these circumstances, Plaintiffs' assertion now of those same burdens, without  
 8 reference to Movants' assent to the requested conditions, should be taken for what it  
 9 is: a transparent effort by Plaintiffs to becloud Movant's substantive arguments for  
 10 intervention.

#### 11 **STATEMENT OF ISSUES**

- 12       1. Whether Movants WSTA and CIAQC are entitled to intervene as of right  
 13              under Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(a)(2).
- 14       2. Whether Movants WSTA and CIAQC should be permitted to intervene  
 15              under Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b).

#### 16 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

17       Movants set forth the relevant facts in their original motion to intervene. Dkt.  
 18 No. 112 at 3–7. Since filing that motion on September 15, Plaintiffs have filed an  
 19 opposition to the Alliance for Automotive Innovation's motion to intervene and to  
 20 WSTA and CIAQC's motion to intervene. *See Dkt. Nos. 117, 145.* Plaintiffs also filed  
 21 a Notice of Pendency of Other Actions. *See Dkt. No. 142.* Federal Defendants filed a  
 22 motion to dismiss on September 19. *See Dkt. No. 118.* In response, Plaintiffs filed an  
 23 opposition brief that stated Plaintiffs will be filing an amended complaint by October  
 24 10. *See Dkt. No. 151.* Proposed Intervenors Alliance for Automotive Innovation filed a  
 25 reply in support of their motion to intervene on September 26. *See Dkt. No. 136.*  
 26 Twenty-two states (led by Iowa), the U.S. House of Representatives, the Truck  
 27  
 28

1 Renting and Leasing Association, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have each  
 2 moved for leave to file amicus briefs. *See* Dkt. Nos. 120, 138, 139, 141.

## 3 ARGUMENT

### 4 I. Movants Satisfy the Four Factors to Intervene as of Right

5 Rule 24(a) allows a party to intervene as of right if it has (1) a significantly  
 6 protectable interest, (2) the outcome of the case, as a practical matter, may impair  
 7 that interest, (3) the existing parties do not represent that interest, and (4) the motion  
 8 is timely. *See W. Watersheds Project v. Haaland*, 22 F.4th 828, 835 (9th Cir. 2022).  
 9 Plaintiffs do not challenge this motion as untimely. Instead, Plaintiffs argue that  
 10 Movants lack a protectable interest in the outcome of this case and that the  
 11 Defendants adequately represent Movants' interests. But Plaintiffs' application of  
 12 these factors does not comply with the Ninth Circuit's "liberal policy in favor of  
 13 intervention." *United States v. City of L.A.*, 288 F.3d 391, 397 (9th Cir. 2002). At every  
 14 turn, Plaintiffs employ hyper-technical arguments and distinctions to a test concerned  
 15 with an applicant's "practical interest" and that lacks "a clear-cut or bright-line rule."  
 16 *Id.* at 398; *see W. Watersheds Project*, 22 F.4th at 835 ("our review is guided primarily  
 17 by practical considerations, not technical distinctions"). Plaintiffs easily satisfy the  
 18 Ninth Circuit's test for intervention as of right.

#### 19 A. Movants have a significantly protectable interest in whether 20 Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 validly repealed waivers 21 that would impose substantial costs on California truckers.

22 "To trigger a right to intervene . . . an economic interest must be concrete and  
 23 related to the underlying subject matter of the action." *United States v. Alisal Water*  
 24 *Corp.*, 370 F.3d 915, 919 (9th Cir. 2004) (citing *Arakaki v. Cayetano*, 324 F.3d 1078,  
 25 1088 (9th Cir. 2003)). Movants will face concrete economic injuries if the Plaintiffs  
 26 succeed in the underlying subject matter of this case—that is, reviving the now-  
 27 repealed waivers for the Advanced Clean Trucks ("ACT"), Advanced Clean Cars II  
 28 ("ACC II"), and Omnibus Low NO<sub>x</sub> Program ("Omnibus Program").

Movants introduced declarations that show the ACT Rule will increase the purchase price for new trucks by \$300,000. Aboudi Decl., Dkt. No. 112-2 at ¶ 10. California admitted that the ACT Rule would impose \$9.1 billion in costs on vehicle manufacturers through 2040. *See Cal. Air. Res. Bd., Updated Costs and Benefits Analysis for the Proposed Advanced Clean Trucks Regulation 14* (Apr. 28, 2020), <https://tinyurl.com/bdz3psjw>. When a regulation imposes substantial costs on manufacturers, they will naturally pass on those costs to customers. Movants need not “introduce evidence from expert economists or from directly regulated third parties to show how third parties would likely respond to a government regulation” when it can “show a predictable chain of events.” *See Diamond Alt. Energy, LLC v. EPA*, 145 S. Ct. 2121, 2139 (2025). This principle is squarely applicable here, where Movants have demonstrated a significantly protectable economic interest in the outcome of this case based on a predictable chain of events. *See* Movants’ Mot. to Intervene, Dkt. No. 112 at 9–12. And Plaintiffs cannot show that overturning Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17—which would necessarily revive the three waiver grants repealed by those laws—will impose zero costs on truck operators. Accordingly, Movants are entitled to intervene as of right.

Plaintiffs did not dispute the costs proffered by Movants. Doing so would not have got them very far, as “a district court is required to accept as true the non-conclusory allegations made in support of an intervention motion.” *Sw. Ctr. for Biological Diversity v. Berg*, 268 F.3d 810, 819 (9th Cir. 2001). Instead, Plaintiffs argue that this economic interest is not related to the underlying subject matter of this case. They falsely characterize Movants’ showing of an economic interest in the case as an argument attacking the ACT, ACC II, and Omnibus Program’s merits.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Contrary to the assertions of the Plaintiffs, Movants defend Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 without attacking the ACT, ACC II, and Omnibus Program Rules on their own merits. *See generally* Movants’ Motion to Intervene, Dkt. No. 112; *see also* Movants’ Proposed Motion to Dismiss, Dkt. No. 112-4. As a careful reading of the Motion to Intervene and the Proposed Motion to Dismiss shows, Movants

1 Plaintiffs seek one outcome in this case: allow California (and other section 177  
 2 states) to enforce the ACT, ACC II, and Omnibus Program Rules. There are three  
 3 impediments to achieving this: Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17. *See* Pls.' Opp.,  
 4 Dkt. No. 145 at 5:10–11 (“Plaintiffs’ goal in this suit is to invalidate the Resolutions”  
 5 (cleaned up)). So Plaintiffs have requested that the Court declare those laws  
 6 “unconstitutional, unlawful, void, and of no effect.” Pls.’ Original Compl., Dkt. No. 1  
 7 at 39. If that happens, “Plaintiffs’ request to have the three waivers declared valid  
 8 simply follows from a ruling invalidating” those laws. Pls.’ Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 5:10–  
 9 11. If Plaintiffs receive the relief that they very clearly request, California will be  
 10 allowed to impose costly regulations on WSTA and CIAQC members who operate  
 11 heavy-duty trucks. Movants have a significantly protectable economic interest in  
 12 whether Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 are valid, because millions of dollars  
 13 in costs “simply follows from a ruling invalidating” those laws. These are exactly the  
 14 kind of “practical considerations” that courts use to grant intervention. *W. Watersheds*  
 15 *Project v. Haaland*, 22 F.4th 828, 835 (9th Cir. 2022). The Court should grant  
 16 intervention based on this practical economic interest.

17 Plaintiffs fruitlessly cite *Cal. Dep’t of Toxic Substances Control v. Jim Dobbias, Inc.*, 54 F.4th 1078, 1088 (9th Cir. 2022), to argue that no relationship exists between  
 18 Movants’ interest and the claims in this case. Pls.’ Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 5:18–21. But  
 19 the relationship factor was not at issue in *Jim Dobbias*. 54 F.4th at 1088. There the  
 20 Ninth Circuit found that an insurer had asserted a protectable interest, and that  
 21 “there is no dispute” that a relationship existed between that interest and the claims  
 22 in the case. *Id.* Accordingly, *Jim Dobbias* does nothing to defeat any argument made  
 23 by Movants. But *Arakaki* provides a cogent explanation of the relationship factor: “An  
 24 applicant generally satisfies the ‘relationship’ requirement only if the resolution of the  
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26 discussed those rules’ economic costs to show that the motion to intervene is  
 27 meritorious *because* of the adverse economic impacts of the Court granting the  
 28 Plaintiffs’ requested relief with regard to Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17.

1 plaintiff's claims actually will affect the applicant." 324 F.3d at 1084 (quoting *Donnelly*  
 2 *v. Glickman*, 159 F.3d 405, 410 (9th Cir. 1998)). As explained *supra*, Plaintiffs' success  
 3 in invalidating Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 will certainly affect Movants'  
 4 economic interests. That establishes a relationship between Movants' interests and  
 5 Plaintiffs' claims.

6 The other cases Plaintiffs cite are likewise unavailing. *Mi Pueblo San Jose, Inc.*  
 7 *v. City of Oakland* involved constitutional challenges to a city's decision to revoke  
 8 building permits. No. 06-cv-4094, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 15396, at \*3 (N.D. Cal. Feb.  
 9 21, 2007). A business association sought to intervene, arguing that Mi Pueblo did not  
 10 obtain the proper permits. *Id.* at \*4. Although the association filed an answer that  
 11 defended the city against Mi Pueblo's causes of action, at oral argument the  
 12 association's counsel "disclaimed unequivocally any interest in the constitutional and  
 13 statutory claims that form the basis of Mi Pueblo's complaint against the City" and  
 14 sought to inject the new permitting issue into the case. *Id.* at \*4–5. *Mi Pueblo* is  
 15 irrelevant to this case. Movants' Proposed Motion to Dismiss and Proposed Answer  
 16 directly address Plaintiffs' constitutional, statutory, and non-statutory claims, and do  
 17 not inject any new issues into this case. *See* Dkt. Nos. 112-4, 112-5. Instead, Movants  
 18 present certain unique arguments, including the argument that the waivers are rules,  
 19 to defeat only the claims that Plaintiffs have presented. Movants are interested in  
 20 defending against those claims and only those claims.

21 *Wellington Hills Park, LLC v. Assurance Co. of America* is also not on point. No.  
 22 10-cv-0916, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 41291 (W.D. Wash. Apr. 7, 2011). That case  
 23 involved a breach of an insurance contract, claiming the insurer's payout did not fully  
 24 cover the insured loss. *Id.* at \*1–2. The policy holder had secured a construction loan  
 25 that gave the bank an interest in any insurance proceeds. *Id.* at \*3–4. The policy  
 26 holder defaulted on the loan, and the bank's agent sought to intervene in the insurance  
 27 contract dispute to protect its interest in the policy proceeds. *Id.* at \*4. The court  
 28 denied intervention because the bank's interest in the case's subject matter was based

1 on a separate agreement (the loan) that was “several degrees removed” from the case’s  
 2 subject matter (the insurance policy). *Id.* at \*6–7. *Wellington Hills Park* is unlike this  
 3 case, where the Plaintiffs, Federal Defendants, and Movants all focus on whether  
 4 Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 are valid. Plaintiffs implicitly agree that  
 5 invalidating those laws will automatically trigger regulations that impose costs on  
 6 Movants. See Pls.’ Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 5:10–11. Clearly, though the laws themselves  
 7 do not impose costs on Movants, removing them will automatically impose those costs.  
 8 This is not a case where Movants’ economic interests are “several degrees removed”  
 9 from the case’s subject matter. Should the Court find for the Plaintiffs, Movants will  
 10 begin suffering direct economic injury. That provides a direct relationship between  
 11 Movants’ interests and this case’s subject matter.

12 *N. Arapaho Tribe v. LaCounte* is likewise not on point. No. 16-cv-11, 2016 U.S.  
 13 Dist. LEXIS 191249 (D. Mont. Apr. 4, 2016). *N. Arapaho Tribe* involved a governance  
 14 dispute between two tribes that shared a reservation. *Id.* at \*2–3. Several litigants  
 15 with cases in Tribal Court moved to intervene. *Id.* at \*2. They claimed a shared  
 16 interest in the case because the outcome could affect their ability to access justice in  
 17 a Tribal Court. *Id.* at \*5. The court held that the movants merely had an interest in  
 18 the case’s outcome, not its subject matter. *Id.* That is because the plaintiffs were  
 19 asserting sovereign and contractual rights in their suit, and the movants were not  
 20 parties to those contracts nor could it enforce the Tribe’s sovereign rights. *Id.* at \*5–6.  
 21 The Northern Arapaho Tribe’s claims had nothing to do with the Tribal Court’s  
 22 jurisdiction or ability to resolve cases. See *id.* at \*6. In this case there is no contract,  
 23 and Movants have not invoked the federal government’s sovereign rights. Instead,  
 24 Movants challenge the Court’s jurisdiction and seek to defend the Federal Defendants’  
 25 actions on the merits. See generally Movants’ Proposed Mot. to Dismiss, Dkt. No. 112-  
 26 4. Movants have a direct interest in defending the laws being challenged in this case.  
 27 Movants’ interest is unlike the *N. Arapaho Tribe* applicant’s generalized interest in  
 28

1 being “allowed to access justice in a Tribal Court.” *N. Arapaho Tribe*, 2016 U.S.  
 2 Dist. LEXIS 191249, at \*5.

3 Movants meet the Ninth Circuit’s practical considerations for intervention by  
 4 having a protectable economic interest that is related to this case’s subject matter.  
 5 Plaintiffs failed to cite any relevant case to defeat this factor. Accordingly, the Court  
 6 should allow Movants to intervene.

7 **B. The existing parties have already failed to adequately protect  
 8 Movants’ interests in this case.**

9 Movants agree the presumption of adequate representation arises here because  
 10 it shares the same ultimate objective as the Defendants. *State ex rel. Lockyer v. United*  
 11 *States*, 450 F.3d 436, 443 (9th Cir. 2006). The Ninth Circuit has said that applicants  
 12 must make a “very compelling showing” to rebut the presumption that the government  
 13 does not adequately represent its citizens. *Id.* That “very compelling showing” may  
 14 appear strong on its face but is weak in application. The Ninth Circuit explained in  
 15 *Lockyer* that “[i]n order to make a ‘very compelling showing’ of the government’s  
 16 inadequacy, the proposed intervenor must demonstrate a likelihood that the  
 17 government will abandon or concede a potentially meritorious reading of the statute.”  
*Id.* at 444.

18 There is much more than a “likelihood” that Defendants will abandon a  
 19 meritorious argument here. Defendants have already done so. Defendants filed their  
 20 motion to dismiss on September 19. *See* Dkt. No. 118. That motion does not seek to  
 21 defend on the merits EPA’s decision to treat the three waivers as rules. Instead, the  
 22 Federal Defendants defend the validity of Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 on  
 23 several other grounds: (1) the Court lacks jurisdiction, *id.* at 8–15; (2) the later-enacted  
 24 laws supersede any previously enacted laws, *id.* at 15–17; (3) there is no final agency  
 25 action, *id.* at 17–18; (4) EPA’s actions are only reviewable in a court of appeals, *id.* at  
 26 18–20; (5) the ultra vires claims cannot evade applicable statutory review schemes,  
*id.* at 20; (6) the Take Care Clause is not judicially enforceable, *id.* at 21; and (7) the

1 nondelegation, judicial powers, and Tenth Amendment theories fail to state a claim,  
 2 *id.* at 22–25.<sup>2</sup>

3       While the combination of arguments may be meritorious, the Federal  
 4 Defendants abandon what the Movants believe is the even more meritorious argument  
 5 that CAA section 209 waivers are rules. As explained in Movants’ Proposed Motion to  
 6 Dismiss, this argument allows the Court to dismiss all of Plaintiffs’ claims for failure  
 7 to state a claim. Dkt. No. 112-4 at 17–20. That is because all of Plaintiffs’ claims rely  
 8 on their underlying argument that the waivers are *not* rules subject to the CRA, so  
 9 therefore, according to the Plaintiffs, the Federal Defendants violated a host of  
 10 constitutional, statutory, and non-statutory provisions. But if the waivers are rules,  
 11 then the Federal Defendants acted properly. Abandoning this meritorious argument  
 12 is more than enough to make the “very compelling showing” that the Federal  
 13 Defendants do not adequately represent Movants’ interests. *Lockyer*, 450 F.3d at 444.

14       That Federal Defendants abandoned this meritorious argument is not a mere  
 15 difference in litigation strategy. *Contra* Pls.’ Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 7:13–14. Movants  
 16 have a strong interest in this Court holding that CAA section 209 waivers are rules.  
 17 Movants have challenged CAA section 209 waivers in the past—including the ACT  
 18 Rule waiver—and will likely challenge additional waivers in the future. Treating  
 19 these waivers as rules rather than orders or other administrative actions provides  
 20 avenues that otherwise would not be available for Movants to challenge the ACT Rule  
 21 and future waivers in separate litigation.

22       For example, the CAA itself does not require EPA’s waiver decisions to be made  
 23 on the record. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 7543. That means if EPA’s decision to grant a waiver is

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24       <sup>2</sup> Once Plaintiffs file their amended complaint, the Federal Defendants must  
 25 renew their motion to dismiss. *See* Pls.’ Opp. to Mot. to Dismiss, Dkt. No. 151. The  
 26 Federal Defendants were likely aware of the waivers-as-rules argument, as Movants  
 27 raised this argument before Federal Defendants filed their motion to dismiss. *See* Dkt.  
 28 No. 112-4 at 17–19. *See also* Dkt. Nos. 49-9 at 19–21; 61-5 at 16–17; Therefore, it is  
 likely that the Federal Defendants will not include this argument in response to a  
 renewed motion to dismiss.

1 an adjudication, then it is an *informal* adjudication. *See Safe Extensions, Inc. v. FAA*,  
 2 509 F.3d 593, 604 (D.C. Cir. 2007) (unless the statute requires proceedings on the  
 3 record, agency adjudications “fall into the vast category of ‘informal adjudications’”).  
 4 Informal adjudications have few procedural guardrails. The D.C. Circuit has  
 5 explained, “no provision of the APA contains specific procedures to govern an informal  
 6 agency adjudication.” *Occidental Petroleum Corp. v. SEC*, 873 F.2d 325, 337 (D.C. Cir.  
 7 1989). Informal adjudication requires no more than a prompt notice of denial and a  
 8 brief statement of the grounds for denial. 5 U.S.C. § 555(e); *see New Life Evangelistic*  
 9 *Ctr., Inc. v. Sebelius*, 753 F. Supp. 2d 103, 117 (D.D.C. 2010). Although the CAA  
 10 requires notice and comment prior to issuing a waiver, it does not require any  
 11 additional procedural steps. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 7543(a)–(b). If waivers are not rules, that  
 12 means EPA could grant CAA section 209 waivers with no more than mere notice and  
 13 a brief statement of its decision. Such a confined procedure would limit opportunities  
 14 to challenge the agency’s decisionmaking that led to the waiver.

15 On the other hand, if CAA section 209 waivers are rules, they are subject to the  
 16 substantial procedural requirements for informal rulemaking—which provide much  
 17 greater opportunity for public participation and a detailed explanation that can form  
 18 the basis for litigation. *Compare* 5 U.S.C. § 553 (informal rulemaking), *with id.* §  
 19 555(e) (informal adjudication). The procedures for informal rulemaking include: (1)  
 20 notice of the rulemaking, (2) an opportunity to comment, (3) the agency must consider  
 21 and respond to the comments, and (4) the final rule must include a concrete statement  
 22 of the rule’s basis and purpose. *Perez v. Mortg. Bankers Ass’n*, 575 U.S. 92, 96 (2015).  
 23 The CAA specifically requires the first two of these, while the Administrative  
 24 Procedure Act requires all four parts for informal rulemaking. Informal adjudication,  
 25 on the other hand, would not require the latter two. This is one of the reasons why  
 26 Movants are particularly interested in whether a CAA section 209 waiver is a rule or  
 27 an order. Movants cannot bring an arbitrary and capricious challenge without a  
 28

1 concrete explanation of the agency’s decision based on the totality of circumstances,  
 2 including responses to comments filed by interested parties.

3 Plaintiffs admitted that the “presumption of adequacy [is] overcome where  
 4 movants provided ‘direct evidence that the United States will take a position that  
 5 actually compromises (and potentially eviscerates)’ their legal position.” Pls.’ Opp.,  
 6 Dkt. No. 145 at 8:16–18 (quoting *State ex rel. Lockyer v. United States*, 450 F.3d 436,  
 7 445 (9th Cir. 2006)). In their motion to dismiss, the Federal Defendants abandoned  
 8 the potentially meritorious argument that a CAA section 209 waiver is a rule. That is  
 9 direct evidence that the Federal Defendants do not adequately represent Movants’  
 10 interests. Accordingly, Movants have overcome the presumption of adequate  
 11 representation.

## 12 **II. Movants’ Intervention Will Not Prejudice Plaintiffs**

13 Rule 24(b) allows a party to intervene by permission if the motion is timely,  
 14 there is a common question of law or fact, and intervention will not cause undue delay  
 15 or prejudice. Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b)(1), (3); *Freedom from Religion Found., Inc. v.*  
 16 *Geithner*, 644 F.3d 836, 843 (9th Cir. 2011). Plaintiffs do not challenge this motion as  
 17 untimely, nor do they seriously argue that there is not a common question of law or  
 18 fact. Instead, Plaintiffs focus on delay and prejudice.

19 Plaintiffs seek to cabin Movants’ interest in this case to Movants’ interest in  
 20 “the lawfulness of EPA’s waivers.” Pls.’ Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 10:2. This ignores that  
 21 EPA’s waivers and the laws repealing them are inextricably intertwined. If this Court  
 22 upholds Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17, then EPA’s waivers remain repealed.  
 23 If this Court invalidates those laws, EPA’s waivers are automatically revived.  
 24 Contrary to Plaintiffs’ suggestion, Movants cannot defend Public Law 119-15, 119-16,  
 25 and 119-17’s validity in any suit other than this one, as this is the only case in the  
 26 country challenging their validity. Movants’ defense of these laws against Plaintiffs’  
 27 claims is not a “collateral issue”—it goes to the very heart of this case. See Pls.’ Opp.,  
 28 Dkt. No. 145 at 10:9.

1 Plaintiffs appear to argue that an intervenor's mere participation will cause  
 2 prejudice. *See* Pls.' Opp., Dkt. No. 145 at 10–11. If that were true, then no party could  
 3 ever successfully intervene because “every motion to intervene will complicate or delay  
 4 a case to some degree.” *Kalbers v. United States DOJ*, 22 F.4th 816, 825 (9th Cir.  
 5 2021). Plaintiffs' Opposition bemoans the number of movants seeking to intervene. To  
 6 mitigate any potential prejudice that may arise from multiple intervenors, Movants  
 7 in their motion preemptively agreed to many of Plaintiffs' requests and disclaimed  
 8 any intention of bringing any counterclaims or crossclaims. Movants' Mot. to  
 9 Intervene, Dkt. No. 112 at 16-18. Movants also agreed to work with other intervenors  
 10 to avoid duplicative briefing once the identity of all intervenors is known. *Id.* These  
 11 conditions, which the Plaintiffs themselves proffered, are sufficient to avoid any  
 12 “undue delay or prejudice” as Rule 24 requires. Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b)(3).

13 Contrary to Plaintiffs' assertions, Movants' interests cannot be fully addressed  
 14 through participation as amici in this Court. That is because Movants are particularly  
 15 interested in defending Public Laws 119-15, 119-16, and 119-17 as enactments that  
 16 repeal rules. As indicated *supra*, Federal Defendants have chosen not to defend EPA's  
 17 actions on that basis. But for Movants' intervention in this case, this Court—and just  
 18 as importantly an appellate court—may not be in a position to determine whether a  
 19 CAA section 209 waiver is a rule. Accordingly, Movants should be permitted to  
 20 intervene as parties in order to fully present their rules-based defense in this court  
 21 and in any appeals thereafter. *See Eldred v. Reno*, 239 F.3d 372, 378 (D.C. Cir. 2001)  
 22 (an argument “is not properly before us” on appeal if not raised by the parties below);  
 23 *Resident Council of Allen Parkway Vill. v. HUD*, 980 F.2d 1043, 1049 (5th Cir.  
 24 1993) (amicus “generally cannot expand the scope of an appeal to implicate issues that  
 25 have not been presented by the parties”).

26

27

28

## CONCLUSION

For these reasons, the Court should grant the motion to intervene.

Dated: October 6, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Theodore Hadzi-Antich

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 6, 2025, I served WSTA's and CIAQC's Reply in Support of Motion to Intervene by filing with the Clerk of the Court for the Northern District of California using the CM/ECF system, causing electronic service upon all counsel of record.

*/s/ Theodore Hadzi-Antich*

Theodore Hadzi-Antich

## CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this document complies with the form requirements of Local Rule 7-3(c) because it does not exceed 15 pages in length.

*/s/ Theodore Hadzi-Antich*

Theodore Hadzi-Antich